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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO HOLD OFFICE DAY IN VICTORIA COUNTY

VICTORIA, TEXAS, May 19, 2006 – USDA Rural Development representatives will be holding an Office Day for residents of Victoria County on Wednesday, June 7, 2006, to provide information, assist with applications, and answer questions regarding the Housing, Community, and Business & Cooperative Programs offered by the agency. The event will be held at the Farm Service Agency, 312 South Main Street, 3rd Floor of the Post Office, Victoria, Texas, from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

"This is an opportunity to bring information about USDA Rural Development Programs directly to the citizens in their rural areas," said Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director. "Representatives will be available to answer individual questions and assist applicants with their applications."

USDA Rural Development Housing Programs offer loans and grants to applicants in rural communities meeting population requirements. Programs offered assist qualified persons to buy, build, repair or maintain a home.

USDA Rural Development Community Programs enhance the quality of life for rural Texans by providing funds to governmental entities, nonprofit organizations and Indian Tribes to enlarge, improve or construct schools, libraries, medical clinics, assisted living centers, public buildings, community centers, and fund new and improved water and wastewater facilities.

USDA Rural Development Business and Cooperative Programs provide the needed capital to expand economic opportunities and development in rural areas throughout Texas by working with banks and community lenders. There is no minimum loan size and the maximum loan size is up to \$25 million.

USDA Rural Development is committed to help improve the quality of life for rural Texans. For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, please contact the Edna Local Office at (361) 782-7151, Ext. 4, or visit our website at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/

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